

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02312 211654Z

41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /067 W

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R 211409Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 303

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 2312

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, SA

SUBJECT: SADAT COMMENTS ON CORRUPTION CHARGES AGAINST NASSER

1. GUMHURIYYA ANNOUNCES IN BANNER HEADLINE FEBRUARY 21 THAT PRESIDENT SADAT, IN INTERVIEW WITH EDITOR-IN-CHIEF RIDHA MUHAMMAD LARI OF SAUDI NEWSPAPER 'UKAZ BRANDED ACCUSATIONS THAT EX-PRESIDENT NASSER SUMGGLED FUNDS OUT OF EGYPT AS "SHAMEFUL". GUMHURIYYA DOWNPLAYS IMPORTANCE OF REMAINDER OF OTHERWISE UNEVENTFUL INTERVIEW, APPARENTLY PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY BY 'UKA AND GUMHURIYYA, BUT STRESSES THAT SADAT, AFTER STUDYING REPORT BY SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR, WHO INVESTIGATED ALL AVAILABLE EVIDENCE, CHARACTERIZED ALLEGATIONS OF WRONG-DOING BY NASSER AS "NONSENSE" WHICH DISTRESSED EGYPTIAN PEOPLE AND BLACKENED EGYPT'S REPUTATION ABROAD.

2. COMMENT: GUMHURIYYA MAKES NO MENTION OF SOURCE OF ALLEGATIONS AGAINST NASSER OR CAMPAIGN AGAINST NASSER ON THIS SUBJECT RECENTLY WAGED BY AKHBAR. JUDGING FROM DEFINITIVE TONE OF SADAT COMMENTS TO UKAZ EDITOR AND TRIUMPHANT ONE-WORD BANNER HEADLINE UNCLASSIFIED

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("SHAME") IN GUMHUIRYYA, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT EGYPTIAN

AUTHORITIES HAVE STEPPED BACK, FOR THE MOMENT, FROM
ATTEMPT TO ATTACK NASSER DIRECTLY AS PART OF DE-
NASSERIZATION CAMPAIGN.
EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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